

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Morale and Pay in the WOP	DATE DISTR.	10 March 1953
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			25X1
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

ARMY review completed.

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

Morale1. Desertions

25X1

- (a) Morale was extremely low among the soldiers because they were dissatisfied with the poor food, inferior clothing and low pay. [] approximately 95 percent [] would desert in time of war. Between 1948 and 1952, approximately 25 men deserted from various units of the 43rd WOP Bn at Raciborz. [] the following cases: 25X1
- In the winter of 1951, a sergeant deserted from the 212th Gd Unit in Krzanowice /5001N-1808E/, but was later apprehended by WOP officers; []
- [] on another occasion, a private made plans to desert from the 41st WOP Brig in Gieszyn /494ON-1850E/. 25X1
- Before he could carry out his intention, he was arrested and given a 15-year sentence. In 1951, [] one 25X1
- sergeant and 13 privates in uniform and armed with submachine guns attempted a mass escape from a WOP Brig /u/1/ the same year. [] all of these men were apprehended and later hanged in Warsaw. 25X1

2. Furloughs and Passes

- (a) Furloughs were difficult to obtain [] Fifty percent of the men 25X1
- had never received a furlough during their two years of service. As a rule, leaves were granted only in case of death in the family, or as a reward for outstanding political achievements.
- (b) On the average, men [] received one evening pass each week. While 25X1
- on pass or furlough, soldiers were forbidden to speak to, or mingle with civilians in the vicinity of their station. They were also forbidden to smoke or drink in public.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

SECRET

STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI		AEC							
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SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION**-2-**

25X1

3. Pay

Soldiers in the 43d WOP Bn received pay according to the following scale:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Monthly Pay in Zloty</u>
Strzelec (Pvt)	20
Starszy Strzelec (PFC)	25
Kapral (Cpl)	30
Plutonowy (Jr Sgt)	400
Sierżant (Sgt)	500
Starszy Sierżant (Sr Sgt)	600

Soldiers in the lower three pay grades were very dissatisfied with their pay, which was barely enough for the purchase of toilet articles and other necessities.

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